

June 6, 1955

General Mark W. Clark  
The Citadel  
Charleston, South Carolina

Dear General Clark:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 26, 1955.

We find it a most curious document which contradicts itself.

To us it confirms in toto our belief and continued protestations that your Task Force should have accepted the proof, heard the witnesses and received the documentary evidence we were prepared to lay before you with respect to the dangerous situation existing in the intelligence picture of our country today. Even your Mr. Kearns, with his intelligence background, and his associates could hardly arrive at a conclusion without detailed evidence. It is inconceivable to those of us who have spent most of our lives in intelligence and who have headed up a clandestine intelligence organization for 13 years, that a time limitation on a study not involving war operations was of sufficient importance for your group to refrain from getting all of the evidence and facts.

With respect to contacting the committee in New York you refer to, General Christiansen told us of no committee but merely told us to see Admiral Conolly at Long Island University if we had anything new or additional. As your letter states clearly that the time limitation and the opinion of Mr. Kearns and his associates ruled out our presenting and proving our story, we cannot understand any other alleged means of communication.

We find it impossible to agree that it is now our duty to "report such facts without delay to the President of the United States with a copy to the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency". We have been under the impression that your probe was being conducted for the President and the Executive Branch of our Government. The Central Intelligence Agency has the existing monopoly on the intelligence picture in this country. We have from time to time given most of the information referred to above to the CIA. We cannot but feel that, having proffered our proof to you and your having declined to accept it, our full duty has been discharged.

Indeed, let us repeat what we have already told you regarding the CIA's written order forbidding us to make any reports or give any information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation involving the internal security of the United States.

We must also call your attention to the fact that General Carter W. Clarke, a former Deputy of CIA, former Chief of Arlington Hall, former

Document No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Review of this document by CIA has  
determined that  
☒ CIA has no objection to declass  
☐ It contains information of CIA  
interest that must remain  
classified at TS S G  
Authority: HR 70-2

Deputy/

General Mark W. Clark

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June 6, 1955

Deputy of CIA, former Chief of Arlington Hall, former Deputy G-2, one of our most experienced intelligence officers and an expert and principal in both secret and signal intelligence, claims that he also was refused a hearing by your Task Force although a great deal of his contentions also bear on the deplorable conditions in intelligence, and more particularly in CIA.

We also note that you evidently completely ignored a note for your eyes only which refers to signal intelligence matters which were not discussed at the preliminary meeting and which cannot be referred to in the mail or discussed generally, even with normally cleared personnel of the United States Government. There, we assure you, we could positively prove a dangerous situation affecting the security of the United States.

In closing, permit us to reiterate that it was our belief that by order of the Executive Department you were investigating the intelligence organizations of this country, and it was to you we offered our full and sincere cooperation. Since as the representative of the President you did not choose to hear us, we discharged our full responsibility. We propose to do nothing further in the matter.

Respectfully,

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Walter P. O'Brien

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John V. Grombach